World position of Science and Technology Manpower

1151. SHRI RAGHAVJI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the world position of Science and Technology manpower of India in terms of number and quality in Atomic Energy;

(b) what efforts are being made to be in the forefront of these technologies;

(c) how does India's situation compare with U.S.A., Europe and Japan ; and

(d) what the time bound programmes to cope with these technologies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) The Science and Technology manpower with respect to atomic energy is varied and complex to give a ranking to India in the world scene. However, among the developing countries, India has developed the wide ranging technologies covering the entire fuel cycle in the field of atomic energy in addition to its ability to design, construct and operate nuclear power stations. India is perhaps the most advanced among the developing countries with respect to the experience and number of technical manpower in the field of atomic energy.

(b) The R & D efforts are continuing with a view for us to be in the forefront in emerging technologies like utilisation of thorium in energy production etc.

(c) Due to the advantageous position, the United States of America, Europe and Japan occupy in high technology area, it is not possible to compare India with these countries.

(d) Within the constraints of resources all possible efforts are being made to master the entire fuel cycle in the nuclear power programme. In addition, efforts are on to build capability in breeder reactors and thorium utilisation. In several areas like robotics, parallel processing in computers, accelerator and laser technology, India has a time bound programme to keep abreast.

Date of filing writ petition by various drug companies

1152. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY :

SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred Question 3051 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 1991 and state :

(a) when were the writ petitions filed by M/s.Synbiotics, M/s. Fulford, M/s. Glaxo, M/s. Lyka M/s. Merind, M/s. Carews, M/s. Dolphin and M/s. Cadila and the reasons for not filing counter affidavits even after lapse of years;

(b) what is the present position of each case as on 15th February, 1992;

(c) what are the details of each writ petition filed by each company;

(d) whether it is a fact that in several cases, expeits decisions have been taken;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether any of the cases have been disposed off, if so, when and on what grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) The years of writ petitions filed by the companies mentioned are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Name the Company	Year in which Writ petition filed
1.	M/s. Synbiotics	1981
2.	M/s. Fulford	1988
3.	M/s. Glaxo	1990
4.	M/s. Lyka Labs.	1990
5.	M/s. Merind	1989
6.	M/s. Carews	1991
7.	M/s. Dolphin	1990
8.	M/s. Cadila	1990

(b) to (f) These writ petitions are mainly against the prices fixed by the Govt. and/or notices for recovery of the tentative liability against the company issued by the Govt. The counter affidavits have been filed in all cases except in the case of M/s. Dolphin Labs. and M/s. Cadila Labs. which will be done shortly. The hearing in all these cases is yet to commence.

Instances of overcharging

1153. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 405 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 1991 and state:

(a) what are the details of instances of overcharging that have come to the notice of Government so far; when these instances came to the notice and at what stage they stand now;

(b) in how many cases prosecutions have been launched and in how many cases no action has been taken so far;

(c) whether it is a fact that these officers have been allowed to stay beyond their tenure and given promotions because of their proximity to the producers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what are the names of scheduled drugs for which price have been revised from June, 1991 to till today?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) The details of instances of overcharging that have come to the notice of Govt. so far were given in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 418 answered on 27-2-91. All these cases are at various stages of examination.

(b) The prosecutions have not been launched any case. in all cases of process of examination/collection of data is in progress.

(c) No such instance has come to the notice of the Govt.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Revision of prices of scheduled drugs is an ongoing process. The names of scheduled drugs prices of which have been revised from June, 1991 till today have been notified from time to time in the Gazette, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.